

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,  
and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-13. (canceled)

14. (~~withdrawn - currently amended~~) A method for preparing the polycarboxylic composition according to claim 23, wherein a said method comprising subjecting a monosaccharide composition undergoes to an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode.

15. (~~withdrawn~~) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said anode is based on a carbon material having a specific surface at least equal to  $0.10\text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ , preferably at least equal to  $0.20\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

16. (~~withdrawn~~) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said carbon material has a specific surface at least equal to  $0.25\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

17. (~~withdrawn~~) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said anode is selected from the group consisting of carbon felts and granular active charcoals.

18. **(withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said electrochemical oxidation treatment is carried out at a pH of between 10 to 14.

19. **(withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the pH is between 11.5 and 14.

20. **(withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the pH is between 12 and 13.5.

21. **(withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said electrochemical oxidation treatment is also carried out in the absence of sodium bromide.

22. **(cancelled)**

23. **(currently amended)** The polycarboxylic composition as claimed in claim 22, comprising: A polycarboxylic composition produced by subjecting a monosaccharide composition to an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode, wherein said resultant polycarboxylic composition comprises:

- from 30 to 90% of one or more products selected from the group consisting of the dicarboxylic acids and their salts, and - from 3 to 59% of one or more products selected from the group consisting of the tricarboxylic acids and their salts, these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the total dry weight of said composition.

**24. (currently amended)** The polycarboxylic composition as claimed in claim 22, comprising: A polycarboxylic composition produced by subjecting a monosaccharide composition to an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode, wherein said resultant polycarboxylic composition comprises:

- from 30 to 90% of glucaric acid, in the free acid form and/or in the form of (a) salt(s), and
- from 3 to 50% of 2-carboxy-2,3,4-trihydroxypentanedioic acid, in the free acid form and/or in the form of (a) salt(s).

**25. (currently amended)** The polycarboxylic composition as claimed in claim 22, comprising: A polycarboxylic composition produced by subjecting a monosaccharide composition to an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode, wherein said resultant polycarboxylic

composition comprises: in total at least 90% of glucaric acid and of 2-carboxy-2,3,4-trihydroxypentanedioic acid, this percentage being expressed as total dry weight of said products with respect to the total dry weight of said composition.

26. (cancelled)

27. (withdrawn - currently amended) Product as A product as a detergent and cleaning agent detergents and cleaning agents for the water treatment, metal treatment, plant treatment, fibers and fiber treatment, said product comprising the polycarboxylic composition of claim 22 23.

28-32. (cancelled)

33. (new) A product as a hydraulic binder, adhesive, founding, paint or leather, said product comprising the polycarboxylic composition of claim 23.

34. (new) A food, pharmaceutical, or cosmetic composition comprising the polycarboxylic composition of claim 23.